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**Outreach Continues for Successful
Public Safety Broadband Network Implementation**

Diamond Bar, CA – In the near future, California’s first responders could have access to the new nationwide, high-speed, wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety that will empower them to save lives, solve crimes and keep our communities safe like never before.

To accomplish this, the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Public Safety Communications Office is holding regional meetings to solicit input from stakeholders and provide detailed information on the implementation of the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN) through the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). Currently, there are more than 200,000 first responders, 2,000 public safety agencies and 109 tribes in California, so outreach is critical for the NPSBN.

Most recently, Southern California held a FirstNet Town Hall meeting in Santa Ana and a Public Safety Broadband Consultation Workshop in Diamond Bar that allowed first responders, IT directors, public safety officials, military, private industry, tribal and federal entities an opportunity to support state planning, consultation and outreach activities. The workshop explained how local agencies could begin preparing for wireless broadband implementation by analyzing their existing plans and determining if changes need to be made.

During both meetings, participants learned how FirstNet would empower first responders with state of the art communication tools. Through broadband technology, public safety users can have the ability to access video images of a crime in progress, download floor plans of a burning building, or connect rapidly and securely with personnel from other communities. NPSBN will provide a spectrum solely dedicated for the use of emergency responders and ensure they have adequate network capacity, which often becomes congested during an emergency situation.

“The input of the state, tribe, and local government is critical as FirstNet develops its plans for this historic network” said Karen Wong, Assistant Director of Public Safety Communications at OES.

Following the tragic events of September 11, 2001, the 9/11 Commission recommended the establishment of a nationwide, interoperable public safety communications network to resolve the communications challenges faced by emergency responders nationwide.

“Since FirstNet was established by Congress, a key component to our efforts has been, and will continue to be, engagement and collaboration with public safety and government at the Federal,

State, local, and tribal levels. As this new network is developed and deployed, this engagement will be more important than ever,” said Ed Parkinson, FirstNet Director of Outreach.

For more information on FirstNet and its implementation in California, please visit CalOES.ca.gov and follow us on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#).